MUSEUM NEWS

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ANNUAL REPORTS

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MUSEUM NEWS

Vol. IV. No. 3 TOLEDO, OHIO May, 1911

LA BORESCA By J. IWILL

Presented to the Museum by Charles L. Borgmeyer, of New York

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR.

The past year has been one of the most significant in the history of the Toledo Museum of Art. The beautiful white marble building in its setting of trees and shrubs stands to attest the unselfish and in many cases self-sacrificing interest of the citizens of Toledo. That such a result was possible in this town of the middle West has been a matter of surprise and congratulation on the part of art lovers the world over. This was proven by the flood of notes of thanks and appreciation which followed the sending out of the museum brochure. This booklet set forth the plans and purposes of the new home of the Toledo Museum of Art, and its artistic success is due to Mr. Charles S. Ashley, under whose direction it was compiled. It has done much to bring the museum into the notice of the art world, newspapers and art journals throughout the country publishing excerpts from this booklet. The *Christian Science Monitor*, of Boston, in particular, together with a cut of the new building, ran a two-column story on the institution with an appreciation of the attitude of our president, as follows:

"In nothing has the popular character of this institution been emphasized more than in the manner in which provision was made for the new building. Mr. Libbey, who donated the site and $50,000 with which the building fund was started, the citizens raising a like sum, gladly gave $25,000 more on condition that the people raise the balance. He absolutely declined the honor of having the institution named after him, on the ground that it would make it a 'one-man museum.' The trustees acquiesced in his conclusion, and the museum was made a popular, live and permanent institution."

A local publicity campaign has been carried on during the season, the newspapers of the city lending their support and aid most generously. To the press is due the thanks and gratitude of the trustees of the Museum of Art for the unfailing courtesy and quick response with which every request for space in the daily columns has been met. This publicity campaign has had an appreciable effect upon the attendance at the exhibitions, the natural tendency of the public being to lose interest in everything pertaining to the old building at a time when all thoughts were turning towards the new. This was obviated by the publishing of splendid articles of appreciation of the Art Museum, written by the Rev. J. C. Herr, of St. Charles Church; Dr. William B. Guitteau, superintendent of the public schools; Dr. R. D. Hollington, pastor of St. Paul's M. E. Church; Miss Lillian Bicknell, supervisor of drawing in the public schools, and her assistant, Miss Elizabeth Walker; Dr. G. A. Bierdemann, pastor of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church; Rev. F. J. Hillig, of St. John's College; Mrs. Ella M. R. Baird, director of the Teachers' Training School; Mrs. W. A. Humphrey, honorary president of the Toledo Federation of Women's Clubs; Carl T. Cotter, supervisor of manual training in the public schools; Bartelle Hamilton, president of the Studio Printing and Box Company; Mrs. Kate Brainard Lamb, vice-president of the Athena Society; Dr. J. C. Taylor, of the People's Forum; Mrs. Edward Squire, president of the Art Study Club of Defiance; C. L. Lewis, photographer; John F. Jones, president of the American Federation of Photographic Societies, and C. C. Taylor, secretary of the same organization; Robert Corl, designer; the pupils of the fourth grade of Jef-

THE HARVEST MOON By H. CROWELL PEPPER
Exhibited in the Seventh American Photographic Salon

ferson School; Irving Macomber, member of the Board of Education; Mrs. James S. Brailey, Sr.; Thomas S. Parkhurst, painter, and George S. Mills, architect.

The exhibitions during the season have been of exceptional interest, all but one having been by American painters.

The November exhibition consisted of twenty-two canvasses by Henry Golden Dearth, N. A., and Louis Paul Dessar, N. A. Several of these were loaned by Dr. A. C. Humphreys, whose private collection of American paintings is one of the greatest in New York.

During the first two weeks of December a group of thirteen American painters were represented, as follows: Emil Carlsen, Will H. Low, William Ritschel, Louis Paul Dessar, Mary Fairchild Low, Edmund H. Osthaus, E. Irving Couse, M. Jean McLane, Edmund W. Greacen, Lillian Matilde Genth, Henry Golden Dearth, John C. Johansen and Frederick Ballard Williams.

From December 17 to January 8, one hundred and sixty paintings of the annual exhibition of the American Water Color Society hung in the galleries.

From January 13 to January 29, the works of Monsieur Joseph Iwill, of France, were shown. This exhibition was notable for the fine quality of the work and for the manner in which it was conducted. Mr. Charles L. Borgmeyer, a lawyer and art connoisseur of New York, assembled the collection from his own private galleries and from those of his friends, with several additions from the artist himself. Mr. Borgmeyer bore all the expense of framing, crating, insurance and catalogues, thus giving the museums of the middle west a fine educational opportunity at very little expense. The deep interest which the Toledo public took in this exhibition was appreciated and rewarded by Mr. Borgmeyer with a gift to the museum's permanent gallery of one of the most important canvasses from his own collection. In the Museum News of this month we print an interesting letter from Monsieur Iwill himself, showing his interest in the Toledo Museum of Art.

The February exhibit was one of great interest, consisting of sixty-five of Alexander Robinson's daring and beautiful water colors and pastels, and twenty-four of Walter L. Palmer's sympathetic snow scenes. Several of Robinson's pictures were sold during the exhibition, one remaining in Toledo in the collection of Mr. Carl B. Spitzer, and two going to Chicago. A party of Chicago people spent several days in Toledo, during this exhibit, coming to attend a reception given in the museum galleries in honor of Mr. Robinson, who was a guest of the director. At the same time Mr. H. G. Fiske, of this city, exhibited his latest work in color photography.

WINTER By C. YARNALL ABBOTT

Exhibited in the Seventh American Photographic Salon

His plates were beautifully illuminated, and several of his pictures of Toledo homes were sold to the owners of those residences.

The March exhibition of fifty-four paintings by L. E. Van Gorder and Thomas S. Parkhurst, of this city, was one of great local interest. These paintings were a surprise and a revelation. That Van Gorder and Parkhurst are entitled to take their place in the front ranks of American landscape painters was proven conclusively by this exhibition, and that the people of Toledo are loyal and appreciative was also proven by the number of sales which were made. The Toledo Tile Club purchased a large canvas entitled The Quay of Flowers, by Van Gorder, and presented it to the permanent collection of the Toledo Museum of Art. Other pictures by these two artists were purchased by John N. Willys, F. L. Geddes, William Hardee, A. M. Woolson, Charles T. Lewis, Charles I. Barnes, Edward H. Smith, George H. Detwiler and Francis P. Chapin, fifteen canvasses in all. At the same time a collection of the works of Harry Roseland, of Brooklyn, were hung. This artist has made a specialty of painting the colored people of the south. Five pictures were lent by Mr. Charles D. Miller, of Toledo, from his private collection; one by Mrs. George E. Pomeroy, and sixteen by the artist.

From the 20th of March to the 26th, inclusive, there was an exhibition of photographic enlargements in oils, water colors, pastels, sepia, black and white and ivory miniatures, by the Professional Photographers Club of Toledo.

During the first two weeks of April the museum was devoted to a display of pictorial photography, the Seventh American Photographic Salon occupying the large gallery on the second floor, the annual exhibition of the Toledo Camera Club the smaller galleries on this floor, while photographs of the Northwest, by Walter D. Wilcox, of Washington, were shown in a gallery on the ground floor.

The annual exhibition of the art work of the Toledo public schools, to open some time during the last of May, will close the museum work for the season.

Lectures have been given during the season by the director in Milwaukee, Wis., before the National Association of Professional Photographers; in New York City to the New York photographers; at Jackson, Mich., before the State Professional Photographers, and at the Toledo Museum of Art upon various subjects pertaining to art and its development.

The Art Department of the City Federation of Women's Clubs, which holds monthly meetings at the Art Museum, has listened to the following talks during the season: The subject of the October meeting was The Painters of Germany. In November Mr. Stevens talked on Curious Phases of Art. In December, when the pictures of the American Water Color Society were on exhibition, the talk was on American painting. In January the

THE CLOSE OF DAY — By WM. ELBERT McNAUGHTON

Exhibited in the Seventh American Photographic Salon

lecture was on Iwill, whose paintings were then hanging. Dr. Jastrow, of the University of Wisconsin, gave the February talk on The Art Impulse. The March subject was Corot, and April, Millet.

The young women of the Training School for Teachers have attended every exhibition held in the museum during the season, listening to talks on the various pictures and schools of art. An informal afternoon was arranged for them to meet Mr. Alexander Robinson, whose pictures were then on exhibition. He talked entertainingly of painting from the artist's viewpoint.

A series of talks on Corot were given in the museum galleries to the seventh and eighth grades of the public schools, and daily talks have been given to classes as arranged for by the teachers and principals.

The Museum of Art has co-operated with the Board of Education in the lecture course which was arranged for the children and parents of seven schools of the city, the assistant director giving illustrated talks on the country people of France and Holland at the East Side High School, Waite, Sherman, Newton, Lagrange, Auburndale and Nebraska schools.

Art talks have been given to several Sunday schools and church societies during the season. The Trinity Social Club spent an evening in the galleries and listened to a talk on The Place of Toledo Painters in American Art. A sferiopticon lecture on Holland was given to the boys of the Collingwood Presbyterian Sunday School in their club rooms.

A number of steriopticon lectures have also been given to the Toledo Camera Club and their guests.

The working girls of Toledo have spent many pleasant evenings at the museum this year. They have had the privilege of bringing their escorts. Music and recitations have been arranged for them and refreshments served.

Beatrice Vaughan's group of girls called "Our Club" were also entertained in the galleries with music, refreshments and a short talk on the pictures. The badge of this self-help society admits the members at all times to the exhibitions free of charge.

An evening entertainment was arranged for the colored people of the city while the paintings of Harry Roseland were were on exhibition. About two hundred accepted and deeply enjoyed this privilege.

During the past season the Federation of Charities has used the Toledo Museum of Art as a meeting place. It seems peculiarly fitting that the meetings of the association which ministers to the physical necessities of the people should be held in the institution which supplies their æsthetic needs.

During the season invitations have been given to various societies, factories and stores to attend the museum on certain Sundays. These invitations have been generally appreciated and accepted. The museum in this way has aroused the interest of many who had never before attended the exhibitions. The institutions which were invited were as follows:

January 29, The Willys-Overland Company; February 5, The Ames-Bonner Company; February 12, The American Bridge Company; February 19, Tiedtke's employees; March 5, Libbey Glass Company; March 12, Berdan & Company; March 15, Business Men's Club; March 19, Painters and Decorators' Union, No. 7, Master House Painters' Association, Builders' Exchange; March 22, The Ohio Club, of Columbus, and April 2, The National Supply Company.

ROLLING THE BALL — By JOHN M. CUSHMAN

Exhibited in the Seventh American Photographic Salon

Many valuable additions have been made to the permanent collection since our last annual meeting.

Mr. Carl B. Spitzer presented a portrait of Whistler, painted by the master's pupil, Walter Greaves, a canvas of absorbing interest from an artistic and historical viewpoint. It was painted in 1877 and was purchased last summer in London by Mr. Spitzer of Walter Greaves himself.

Mr. Irving Squire has added many valuable books to the library of the museum. This library is in constant use, consulted by artists, artisans, manufacturers, printers, club women and school children.

We have already spoken of the gift of Iwill's "La Boresca" by Mr. Charles L. Borgmeyer, of New York. Of this picture some fine critiques have been written, notably those by Clyde Burroughs, of the Detroit Museum, and by Mr. Macomber, of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, who writes: "I am greatly interested in this work because it is unusual. It is the picture of an ordinary scene with the values so divided that the whole is in perfect balance. This is accomplished with an almost straight line across the canvas; added to this, the clear atmosphere and brilliant light with the sweeping foreground is marvelous. It is a work full of rare quality."

The Art Department of the City Federation of Women's Clubs presented one of Alexander Robinson's beautiful water colors, entitled Interior of Church, Holland.

Mr. Alexander Robinson's interest in the Toledo Museum of Art was so deep that it was commmunicated to his brother, Mr. Percival M. Robinson, of Manchester, N. H., who purchased three of Robinson's pastel drawings of Italian cities and presented them to our association.

Mr. Robinson, himself, give a series of his working drawings in black and white and color, which will be of interest to the general public as well as to the students.

Mrs. John Marshall, of Rome, Italy, sister of the late Mrs. C. W. Huntington, of Toledo, as a memorial of her sister, who found so much pleasure in the museum, has sent a bas-relief taken from the Throne of Venus in the Museo delle Terme in Rome. Mr. Marshall is a representative of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and is recognized as one of the first authorities on Greek and Roman antiquities.

Two fine volumes, containing a paraphrase and commentary on the New Testament, published in 1709, have been given to the library by Mr. H. G. Beach, of Toledo.

Mr. Howard Lewis has presented the cast of a bust by E. M. Knoblaugh, of Toledo.

Mr. Constant Mayer, a well known artist residing in Paris, France, has contributed to the permanent collection his painting entitled Trilby. This canvas, some years ago, was in all of the important exhibitions of this country. The firm of M. Knoedler & Co. displayed it in their galleries for some time.

Mr. Arthur F. Bissell, of New York City, has offered to the Toledo Museum a collection of Egyptian, African, Syrian, Ancient Roman, Greek, Turkish and American antiquities. These articles have all been verified by Professor Louth, of the Munich University, and will be an interesting addition to the collections at the museum.

We have already spoken of the gift of the L. E. Van Gorder painting entitled The Quay of Flowers, by the Toledo Tile Club. The manner of this gift seems most appropriate, as Mr. Van Gorder has, for many years, been a member of this same artists' society. That

they have thus honored their fellow member is most praiseworthy.

The old museum has been crowded to bursting with exhibitions and classes during the season; most of those listening to lectures have been obliged to stand or sit on the floor. The educational possibilities will be doubled and trebled in the new building, where there will be adequate meeting places for all clubs and classes. No one who is not daily in close association with the work of the museum can realize just what this will mean, both to the city and to the museum.

The director wishes to express his deepest gratitude and appreciation to the secretary, Leila E. Brown, and to the librarian, Grace E. Worts, for their untiring and unselfish service. Their loyalty and devotion during a difficult season will always be remembered with gratitude. Miss Brown has, during the year, secured eighty-three new members, making the total membership seven hundred and thirty. Since our last publication twenty-four new members have become identified with the museum. We are publishing in this months NEWS a list of the eighty-three new members.

William B. Campbell, superintendent of the building, has been most faithful in the discharge of his duties and to him, also, the thanks of the trustees are due.

We are now closing the first chapter of the history of the Toledo Museum of Art. The old building, which has grown so inadequate to our greater needs, will not again be open to the public. For ten years all those who have cared for and appreciated the advantages of the study of art have found the museum a satisfying and profitable meeting place. So many pleasant memories linger within the walls of the old building that it is of necessity with somewhat a feeling of sadness that we turn our eyes away from the happiness of this association towards the majesty and beauty of the new. It is the wish of the director and of the trustees, and I am sure it will be the wish of all the members, that the same informal spirit of helpfulness may be carried to the new home, which must be made a center of welcome, activity and rest to every citizen of Toledo.

THE OLD BUILDING

ARRANGEMENT IN WHITE By FRANK WOLCOTT
Exhibited in the Seventh American Photographic Salon

NEW MEMBERS.

Since the last annual report the following eighty-three new members have been secured. It is hoped soon to bring the membership up to the thousand mark. Members can greatly assist the officers by suggesting names of those who would like to join the institution:

A. D. Black
L. D. Gottshall
W. S. Cooley
R. B. Wiltsie
Geo. G. Hallebneck
F. C. Hoehler
Dr. Homer H. Heath
W. Y. Jackman
Miss A. Dyke Beals
Wilbur Wynant
A. J. Henig
Eleanor C. Hill
Lewis H. Clement
A. A. Atwood
J. J. Urschel
George L. Heater
J. R. Peck
Wm. F. Witker
George R. Hudson
H. B. Ames
Dr. A. de Clairmont
Mrs. John Sinclair
J. F. Bennett
H. A. Page
L. S. Ottenheimer
Rev. George Gunnell
Walter Eversman
Miss Jeannette Claflin
Mrs. Augusta Latham
J. C. Lockwood
Mrs. Mildred Dobler
Mrs. Anna E. Howe
Dr. J. H. Jacobson
Frank K. Tom
Mrs. H. E. Averill
Mrs. E. R. Kellogg
Judge J. M. Killetts
H. J. Leadbetter
Frank L. Baird
P. L. Van Alstyne
A. W. Boardman
D. W. Barry
Rev. S. C. Black
Luther M. Cooley
J. W. Goodyear
Arthur B. Laskey
M. M. Stophlet
J. A. Taggart
Chas. S. Turner
Mrs. C. H. Bradbury
W. P. Kiser
Miss Annette Cull

Henry C. Vortriede
Fred Haigh
Miss Amy Heydon Brown
Thomas Bentley
A. C. Stewart
Miss Leonarda Goss
G. A. Ohlinger
Mrs. J. M. Arbuckle
Mrs. Milo Bashare
Charles Nordhoff
Dr. Mary E. Law
Rev. G. A. Bierdemann
B. O. Gamble
Wm. J. Finley, Jr.
F. G. Crandell
Miss Isabel Price
Miss Cora Riebel
Frank E. Tracy
Mrs. T. B. Terry
Franklin B. Jones
P. J. Kranz
D. D. Douglas
Miss Emma Seek
Howard Lewis
Mrs. B. C. Peck
Robie Cone
Dr. Chas. E. Slocum
P. E. Dombaugh
Geo. W. Sawkins
Capt. Martin Christy
Dr. James A. Duncan

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

May 2, 1911

Debit

To balance on hand May 3, 1910	$2,096.19
Memberships	7,286.00
Door Receipts	174.10
Commission	59.75
Advertising	223.00
Subscriptions	9.25
Refund	116.17
Total	$9,964.46

Credit

By disbursement as follows—	
Interest	$460.88
Permanent Exhibitions	77.94
Salaries	3753.99
Exhibitions	1019.66
Heat, Light, Fuel and Water	728.00
Express and Cartage	37.08
Postage	253,50
Printing	333.95
General Expenses	773.47
Insurance	266.00
Total	$7704.47
Balance	$2259.99

I. E. Knisely, Treasurer

OUR VERY BEST BOW

To Toledo Says a Writer in the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The Cleveland *Plain Dealer* publisher the following regarding the art movement in Toledo, in its department, "In the Art Realm," edited by Jessie C. Glasier:

"Our very best bow to Toledo! Just at the moment that we are seeing visions of a People's Museum of Art for Cleveland, our energetic little neighbor sends out a beautiful illustrated booklet telling how she did it.

"First should be given Director Stevens' motto: 'The museum is not a cold storage for works of art—it is a center of activity.' Really, though, the director himself should have been put first. Out of nearly nothing as a nucleus he has developed an institution which brings exhibits of the best modern art to his home town and is building up excellent collections of its own. When offered more money to forsake Toledo for other points in need of art stimulation he has refused and redoubled his energies. Truly, as Alexander Robinson said here the other day, 'there is much in the director.'

"This center of activity, then, has attracted 21,000 school children to one year's lectures on Egyptian art; has admitted clubs free at all times and given them talks as desired; has held exhibitions of public school work; has given the free use of its library to all; has provided a social center where working girls and their escorts may come for entertainment and refreshment; has co-operated with the Y. W. C. A. work among the factory girls—in short, has made everybody so happily at home in the museum that the very newsboys and colored bellhops of the town take pride in directing strangers to the new building.

"And through it all, the museum has been kept the people's. When a prominent financier offered a site and $50,000 toward the new building on condition that the public raise a like sum, he expressly stipulated that his name should not be attached to the institution. Here is what one of the people, a skilled artisan, says of his ownership in the museum:

"'I shared with a large number of people in the ordinary walks of life the impression that only the people of the highest society could obtain any privileges of the museum. But I soon found that a man's standing among those who intermingle under its auspices is determined by what he makes of himself. Any man may learn to appreciate the beautiful things of life and art through the influences he will find there and receive also a practical education along lines which will be of immense benefit to him.

"'I contributed $10 and became a member. Since that time I have attended every lecture and club meeting and have had my eyes open to see and ears open to hear all the many good things and have been able to produce work along artistic lines which has been a revelation to my friends.'

"The new building is of white marble, Grecian in design and will cost over $233,000 when completed. The institution is within some $45,000 of clearing up its building debt."

LETTERS OF APPRECIATION.

Many letters of thanks have been received by the Museum of Art during the season showing the appreciation of the organizations which have received invitations to attend the various exhibitions. Following are some of the letters:

"Your kind invitation to the trustees of the Ohio Club, thru our Business Men's Club, was greatly appreciated, and therefore it gave the writer a great deal of pleasure to accompany these gentlemen to the Art Museum on a tour of inspection.

"They were surprised, as well as delighted, to think we had such a museum in Toledo, and when we showed them our new building in course of erection, they were profuse in their congratulations. Sincerely yours, J. Gazzam Mackenzie."

"The beautiful spirit which prompted you to so kindly extend an invitation to the members of the Ohio Club, of Columbus, while in Toledo to visit the Toledo Museum of Art, was promptly accepted by every member of the party, and we were delighted with the few minutes we spent in the galleries, and longed for more time. We also viewed your magnificent new building, which is beautiful indeed. Assuring you of our high appreciation of the thought, which added much to our limited stay in your city beautiful, and with kind wishes from every member of our party, I am, very sincerely yours, E. L. Moon, President."

"We are in receipt of your favor of recent date, inviting the Knights of Columbus to attend your exhibition on Sunday afternoon, March 26th. We sincerely appreciate your courteous invitation and feel confident we will thoroughly enjoy this treat. Trusting we will have a good representation on next Sunday afternoon and thanking you again for this favored invitation, we beg to remain, Respectfully yours, Knights of Columbus, Toledo Council No. 386, J. C. Wilcox, Secretary."

"Mr. Willys directs me to express his sincere thanks for your kindness in inviting our employees to the Museum Sunday afternoon. This is a pleasure which many of our employees will undoubtedly avail themselves of, and on their behalf as as on Mr. Willys', I sincerely thank you. Yours very truly, Geo. W. Graham, Sec'y to Mr. Willys, The Willys-Overland Company."

"I wish to thank you on behalf of L. U. 81, American Flint Glass Workers' Union, for the favor granted our Local Union. The exhibit was fine and was greatly appreciated by our members. Thanking you again for your kindness, Yours very respectfully, Joseph Quill, Secretary L. U. 81."

COMMENDATION.

The following letter from the Curator-in-chief of the Brooklyn Institute will be of interest to our members:

"I am very much obliged to you for the copies of your plans and purposes of the Toledo Museum of Art, and congratulate you upon the favorable outlook. It must have required considerable self-denial on the part of Mr. Libbey to decline to have the museum named in his honor. It shows conclusively that Mr. Libbey had the welfare of the museum at heart and not the idea of erecting a monument to himself, for there is not the least doubt in the world but what important museums have been heavily handicapped by a name. A very concrete example is that of the Peabody Museum of Yale University—a museum which contains invaluable collections and that has failed to receive a penny of the many millions given to Yale University. Permit me to congratulate the museum and Mr. Libbey on his action, which will, undoubtedly, cause him to be remembered with very kindly feelings by the city of Toledo. Faithfully yours, F. A. Lucas, Curator-in-Chief.

A GRATIFYING SPIRIT.

The following are two letters received by the campaign committee:

"Enclosed find check for one hundred dollars ($100.00) for the new building. An expression of sympathy with and appreciation of this public benefaction."

"Enclosed you will find my check for twenty-five dollars, which I am sending you in grateful acknowledgment of the benefits and privileges the Art Museum gives to all and which I hope may help a little in the speedy completion of your very beautiful new building. Please accept this check as a voluntary offering of my appreciation of your work."

A LETTER FROM IWILL.

The following letter was received by the Toledo Museum of Art from Monsieur J. Iwill of Paris, in acknowledgment of the museum brochure:

"You have been most kind to send to me the very pretty booklet of the Toledo Museum of Art. I am very grateful to you for it and I have read it with the greatest interest. We are always surprised in France to see with what rapidity and energy the new cities of the new world build museums and schools, all of which, in a word, can contribute to the education of the American people, almost entirely by popular subscription. It is wonderful! I was very much touched, also, when I recognized, in that beautiful gallery filled with charming young girls, my own work.

"Thus the booklet is doubly precious.

"I thank you again for the interest and kindness with which you have treated my exhibition and for the gracious thought you have had."

A CANADIAN NATIONAL GALLERY.

Few events have attracted the interest of art connoisseurs throughout the Dominion during the last few years in so great a measure as the opening, on April 21, of the National Art Gallery, of Canada, in Ottawa. In view of the national importance of the event His Excellency Earl Grey presided over the opening ceremonies, which attracted hundreds of distinguished visitors, artists and art lovers.

A BEAUTIFUL GIFT

To the Museum in Memory of the Late Mrs. C. W. Huntington.

A letter has been received from Mrs. John Marshall of Rome, Italy, advising the Toledo Museum of her gift of a cast of the bas-relief from The Throne of Venus in the Museo delle Terme in Rome. This gift was made in the memory of her sister, Mrs. Huntington, who found so much pleasure in the museum during her brief residence in this city. The following description of the bas-relief was sent to the trustees by the donor:

"This relief was found in 1887 during building operations in the Ludovisi quarter in Rome. It stood for a long time in the Ludovisi palace, till it passed with the rest of the collection by purchase into the hands of the government.

"There is another relief similar in style and corresponding in shape, which is in the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, and the two belong evidently to the same structure. What this was is disputed, but the generally accepted notion is that they are two superstructures or "screens" from the ends of one large altar about five feet high, that being height at which the reliefs look best.

"The interpretation of the scenes on both reliefs is very much disputed, but it is agreed that they must be explained by each other. There are two main explanations irreconcilable with each other.

"One supposes the subjects to be taken from ordinary Greek mythology, and makes the scene on this relief to be Aphrodite rising from the sea, and that on the Boston relief the dispute of Aphrodite with Persephone concerning Adonis.

"The second interpretation denies that the scene can be explained by ordinary mythology, and thinks that the altar was dedicated to a goddess of childbirth and fertility. The main scene here would be that of a childbirth, the kneeling position in early Greek art being typical of birth scenes. The Boston relief would represent conception. Eros, the primeval deity, is weighing out to the two wives the assurance of lineage, the continuance of the family. There were many such cults and by tradition they are said to be Cretan, that is to say, Mycenaean, in origin. The figures on the sides are a wife burning incense and a nude girl playing flutes,—one of the class of hetairai.

"The style of the work is late Archaic, and the date would be about 460 B. C. It was probably made by an Ionic artist."

ART COMES TO TOLEDO

Via New York and New Yorkers Never See It Says the Sun.

A notable meeting was held recently in New York to hear artists and others decide the question, "Can New York Be Made the Art Center of the World?" They were told that at any rate it was already the art center of America in spite of the indifference of New Yorkers, who were charged with doing nothing whatever for art.

The *New York Sun*, reporting the meeting, says, among other things, the following:

J. W. Alexander, president of the National Academy of Design, speaking as a representative of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, was the first to make a plea for a suitable place in this city where current works may be exhibited.

This feeling, said Mr. Alexander, is the one that art in New York has to contend with, while art is appreciated more in every other city in the United States.

" 'Yet New York is today, in spite of everything, the art center of the country,' he said, 'in spite of the fact that nothing whatever is done for art in this city.'

"Then he told how Minneapolis has recently raised money to build an exhibition building and how the city gave the site. He mentioned Cleveland, Seattle, Toledo and other cities as having buildings for such exhibitions and told how pictures by the great artists abroad came into New York boxed up, went on to be exhibited in the smaller cities and came back to New York in boxes again to be dispersed without New Yorkers having a chance to see them, since there was no place in which they might be exhibited.

"He said that the illustrators of this country lead the world and that when the Society of Illustrators arranged an exhibition recently it was sent to Pittsburg and other cities, but not shown in New York. Again because there is no place to show it.

"New York, he said again, has no hospitality for art, and while Fifth avenue is a 'wonderful school' there are exhibited there for the most part works of foreign painters, while the American artist has no chance there and continues to exist here only because other cities supply the opportunity lacking in New York."

IN TOLEDO ACHIEVEMENT

Cleveland Can Find a Lesson Says The Town Topics of That City.

Referring to the Museum of Art situation, the *Town Topics*, of Cleveland, prints the following:

"There is a reminiscent charm in the periodic recurrences of the Art Museum agitation —no, that is hardly the word, gossip is better. Agitation would mislead one to believe that things were pretty lively, and on the contrary, the Art Museum movement is most deliberate at all times. Council has appointed a committee to investigate the delay. This adds one historical fact to accumulated data and viewed in this light it is of passing importance. If the time ever comes when the Art Museum movement is made the popular issue something tangible will be accomplished. *Toledo made a rousing campaign among all of her people for an Art Museum, laboring men and clubmen working shoulder to shoulder. A van load of pictures in the court of an office was the first victory. Out of it grew the present gallery, which is the most popular city institution. Cleveland can find a lesson in the Toledo achievement.*"

THE PLAIN DEALER

Makes Something of a Thrust at Cleveland and Praises Toledo the While.

For some thirty years Cleveland has been trying to have an art museum, and the joke of the matter is that plenty of money has been available all the years. Three great hearted philanthropists died at different times, each leaving sums sums sufficient to give their city a splendid museum. The dead meant well, but the living have managed to delay, wrangle, block, resolve, hinder and tangle things up for three long decades, defeating the high purpose of the makers of the bequests and depriving the citizens of Cleveland of their own. Agitation is still rife and another decade promises to slip by while the Dogberrys in awful authority sit mightily and everlastingly on the job.

Editorially, the Cleveland *Plain Dealer* comments on the situation and incidentally speaks of Toledo as follows:

"Some thirty years ago a little company of Cleveland art pioneers said: 'We must have an art museum here.' But there was no backing for the enthusiasts. Rooms were looked up and measured—then the bread and butter struggle absorbed the little colony of artists. 'Next year,' they said—then 'In another five years or so.'

"Next came the dream of a millionaires' museum, to be built with the combined bequests of three philanthropists, each of whom, unfortunately, made his will with no knowledge of the intentions of the other two. The public sat up and took eager notice, then leaned back and waited for the promised "magnificent structure."

"Now it is proposed to forget for a time these gifts and the legal complications and many discussions over location and management, engendered by them, and form the nucleus of a people's museum, calling on the men and women of Cleveland to back the project. Other cities, beginning small, have built museums and acquired collections of which the nation is justly proud. Six years ago the little city of Toledo started with one picture. It has now an organization of over 700 museum supporters, a collection of paintings, prints, antiquities and sculptures which is the envy of many larger cities, and nearing completion, a marble building which, with its contents, is valued at $500,000.

"The certain financial gain which Cleveland's museum would have made if housed in one room twenty years ago, can only be vaguely estimated from the prices paid in eastern galleries during the past few seasons for works of art which this city might easily have acquired before their tremendous raise in value. Collections which can never be duplicated and gifts of princely worth are going every season to other cities. But it is the broadening and uplifting influence of art, not its money value, that this city of commerce and manufacture needs to consider. The mistakes of twenty years cannot be undone in a day, but once civic pride is awake, much may be done to retrieve Cleveland's reputation for sordid indifference to the fine arts."

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ART MOVEMENTS.

Letters have been received from cities all over the Union asking us how we have built an Art Museum in Toledo. Dayton, Ohio, has sent for data and statistics of the Toledo Museum of Art. Columbus, too, is at present contemplating a campaign for money with which to build a museum. The Trustees of the Detroit Museum also requested plans and pictures of our beautiful new building, as they are about to build a new museum on Woodward Avenue, having outgrown the old Jefferson Avenue building.

NEW ORLEANS IN LINE.

New Orleans will have a $150,000 art gallery, reports the New Orleans *Times-Democrat*, as follows:

"The fondest hopes of its many lovers of art and culture will be materialized, and one of the city's long-felt wants will be filled in the construction of one of the handsomest buildings in the country. This has been made possible by the donation of one of its wealthiest and most philanthropic citizens.

"Noted for their love and appreciation of all that is beautiful in art, music and the drama, and having French opera and adequate playhouses, the people of New Orleans have always been conscious that one institution was needed—an institution that is the pride and source of pleasure of the intellectual in all large cities, and of many even smaller than New Orleans—a temple of art. This lack has been noticed by thousands of visitors to New Orleans. It has been impressed on New Orleanians, and those who have the pride and reputation of the city at heart have felt it most keenly."

IN PRESS

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ANNOUNCEMENT

¶During the past few months we have had our Agents searching the private collections of Europe and of America for foreign and American paintings. The result of this research has brought to light some very choice examples never before exhibited in this country. These we have the pleasure of announcing to our patrons, will be on exhibition in our Galleries in Chicago and Milwaukee during May and June.

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